



03500.017948

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
KENICHI HAYASHI, ET AL.	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: 10/789,985	)	
	:	
Filed: March 2, 2004	)	
	:	
For: SHEET PROCESSING APPARATUS	)	March 30, 2004
AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS	:	
INCLUDING THE SHEET PROCESSING	)	
APPARATUS	:	

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed Japanese reference is also enclosed.

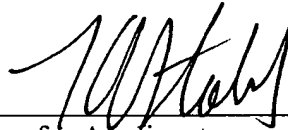
A concise explanation of relevance for the non-English document may be found at page 3 of the specification.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

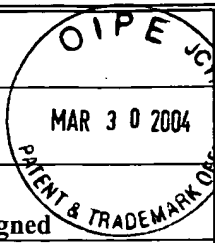
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. A. Stahl', is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants  
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LAS:eyw

DC-MAIN 161988 v1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Submitted to the PTO: March 30, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.017948</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/789,985</b>		
				APPLICANT <b>KENICHI HAYASHI, ET AL.</b>				
				FILING DATE <b>March 2, 2004</b>		GROUP <b>Unassigned</b>		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		5,897,250	04/27/1999	Hirai et al.	399	404		
		5,911,414	06/15/1999	Kato et al.	270	58.07		
		6,241,234	06/05/2001	Saitoh et al.	270	58.12		
		6,264,194	07/24/2001	Hayashi et al.	271	220		
		2003/0044186	03/06/2003	Kato et al.	399	16		
		2003/0049063	03/13/2003	Suzuki et al.	399	407		
		2003/0184010	10/02/2003	Kato et al.	271	207		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
		9-48545	02/18/1997	Japan			Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

LAS:eyw